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Albert THOMAS

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CIA Wasteful, Runs Wild, Thomas Says

BY CAROL FOLEY

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Washington — Rep. Albert Thomas claims the answer to leaky United States intelligence is not to order silence, but to put closer supervision on the Central Intelligence Agency, particularly its purse strings.

"We're all doing a little bit too much talking," Thomas said. "But I'm not an admirer of the CIA. They throw away more money than any other government agency. It's a uneconomical operation. They get about twice as much money as they ought to get."

Thomas, a key member of the House appropriations committee and highly influential in Congress, declared "the CIA needs tighter reins on its expenditures. I don't like the kind of freedom it has. There's a lack of supervision."

"There is no congressional rein on the CIA. You have to have reins on agencies to keep them in line."

"The CIA should never have been involved in that Bay of

Pigs invasion. It was a military matter. The military should have had a chance to step on it."